Minds of Medicine on 'Living with Diabetes'

A presentation of Minds of Medicine: Living with Diabetes will air at 8:30 p.m. Thursday, June 27, on WXYZ-TV/Channel

7.
The program is part of a series locally produced in cooperation with WXY2-VV/Channel 7 and Henry Ford Health System. The series provides an inside look at the doctors and nurses at one of the nation's top-rated hospitule as they make critical decisions that extend and even save lives.

Minds of Medicine: Living with Pichates with a content of the content of the

Minds of Medicine: Living with Diabetes will feature how diabetics, such as former Miss America 1999 Nicole Johnson, struggle to keep their disease under control. Johnson, 28, was diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes when she was 19. Today, she uses a pump that nijects insulin directly into her bloodstream instead of having to give herself shots four times a day.

Fred Hammond, an internationally known gospel recording actist from Petrott and Mishael

Fred Hammond, an interna-tionally known gospel recording artist from Dotroit and Michael Squires, 22, who was diagnosed with diabetes at the age of 17, talk about living with Type 2 diabetes.

Diabetes facts

The statistics on diabetes, the sixth leading cause of death in the United States, are alarming: 10 million Americans have diabetes and 5 million Americans suffering from diabetes don't know they have the disease.

Warning signs/symptoms

- Increased thirst
 Increased thirst
 Increased hunger, especially after eating
 Frequent urination
 Unexplained weight loss
 Tiredness
 Blurred vision

■ Family history
■ Race or ethnic background;
risks are greater in African
Americans, Hispanics, Native
Americans and Asians
■ Being overweight
■ Hypertension (high blood
pressure)

ressure)

Abnormal cholesterol lev-

els

Age; risk increases as one
gets older
Smoking
Heavy alcohol use

Often associated with being overweight, Type 2 diabetes typically develops in adults over the age of 40, but now it is appearing in children and young adults at alarming rates.

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Diabetes Mellitus is a disease of the pancreas that affects the body's ability to produce or prop-erly respond to insulin, a hor-mone that helps the body store

and use the augar and fat from the food we eat.

"We need to do a better job of teaching people how to self-manage their disease," says Dr. Kimberlydawn Wisdom, an emergency medicine physician at Henry Ford Hospital. 'But at the same time, people with diabetes need to make lifestyle changes that will enable them to better man-

age the disease.

A Henry Ford endocrinologist for more than 40 years, Dr. Fred Whitehouse has been on the forefront of diabetes treatment torefront of diabetes treatment and research. In a 1993 report, Whitchouse showed unequivocal-ly that controlled diabetes, which involves keeping the blood sugar close to normal, helps pre-vent eye, kidney and nerve prob-

vent eye, kidney and nerve problems.

Among the new technologies that will be featured in the show in Henry Ford's diabetes care management program, which closely tracks patients. The system sends out letters automatically to remind patients about required lab tests such as eye and foot exams and blood tests.

On the evening of the June 27 broadcast, viewers may participate in an on-line chat with physicians featured on the show. The chat will be held 8:40-9:40 p.m. at henryford.com.

Encore presentations of Minds of Medicine: Living with Diabetes will air 1 p.m. Sunday, June 30, and 1 a.m. Monday, July 1.

Wear good shoes and take a friend walking

Here are some Weight Watchers tips for successful walking

ers tips for successful walking routines:

Bo sure the shoe fits. It's unlikely that at the first sign of blisters or chafing, you'll pack up your walking routine for good, sulf-fitting walking shoe with a durable sol and supportive arches, along with a comfortable sock that deem't rub. Once you've found the right shoe, break it in slowlytoo much, too soon can also leave you with blister-covered feet.

■ Invest in all-weather ear, Don't let bad weather be your excuse not to get out. Select clothing that will protect you from the elements. For winter, this means layering fabrics that will wick sweat away from the skin while insulating you against the frigid temperatures. For summer, choose comfortable shorts that won't ride up and tops that can keep you cool. If you're walking at night, be sure to wear reflective clothing.

Buddy up. The surest way

to stick to your walking routine is to do it with a partner. You'll feel obligated to show up when someone else is counting on you! Besides, it's a great way to catch up with your best friend or relative.

m Stick to your schedule. If you're a morning person, get up and go as soon as you hop out of bed. Or if strolls after dinner are more your speed, clear the dishes and get moving. It doesn't matter when you walk, as long as you do it when you're likely to stick with it. If you hate getting up when the alarm rings, chances are, your morning walks will soon be a distant memory.

Add mileage gradually and keep track of your improvements. Gradually increase your time or distance each week. As you add more time and mileage, keep a daily log to note all of your progress. It's a great way to stay motivated and see how far you've come. Stay in alignment. Bad posture is a frequent culprit that can lead to inefficient walking, so prevent droopy shoulders by imaging that a string is pulling to the detailed of the string is pulling. imaging that a string is pulling your head straight up, with your eyes focused about 10 to 20 feet ahead of you. And don't forget to keep your abdominal muscles tight, which will help to tone your stomach muscles and support your back.

■ Don't leave home without the essentials. Tote a bottle of water so you won't get thirsty. And why not listen to some tunes while you walk? Music can inspire you to keep moving and can make the minutes pass in no time at all. Finally, consider carrying a pedometer, which will track not only how far you've gone, but also how much time it took to do so. You can challenge yourself to go further or do your workout in less time.

■ Know when to take a break. Sure, walking and exer-cise are great for you, but taking

a day off can be equally as healthful. If you're injured or sick, don't push yourself, as your body needs time to recover from its ailments. Doing too much can its aliments. Doing too much can be just as detrimental as doing nothing at all. And in giving yourself a day off, you'll find that you'll onthusiastically look forward to getting back to your daily walks.

Heart from page C4

that may ream a heart attack is happening:

E Chest discomfort. Most heart attacks involve discomfort in the center of the chest that lasts for more than a few minutes, or that goes away and comes back. It can feel like uncomfortable pressure, squeezing, fullness or pain.

E Discomfort in other areas of the upper body. Symptoms can include pain or discomfort in one or both arms, the back, neck, jaw or stomach.

E Shortness of breath. This feeling often comes along with

feeling often comes along with chest discomfort. But it can occur before the chest discom-

Other signs. These may include breaking out in a cold sweat, nausea or lightheaded-The warning signs for stroke

include:

Sudden numbness or weak-

from a massive heart attack if he had not gone to the doctor when he did.

The American Heart Association encourages all men and heir families to learn the warning signs for heart attack and stroke and what to do when the warning signs occur.

Some heart attacks are sudden and intense - the typical movie heart attack, where no one doubts what's happening. But most heart attack sart slowly, with mild pain or discomfort. Often the person affected isn't sure what's wrong and waits to long before getting help.

Here are some of the signs that may mean a heart attack is sare what's wrong and waits to long before getting help.

Here are some of the signs that may mean a heart attack is sare soft he face, arm or leg, espenapening.

ness of the face, arm or leg, especially on one side of the body.

Sudden confusion, or trouble speaking or understanding.
Sudden trouble seeing in one or both eyes.
Sudden trouble walking.
dizziness, loss of balance or coordination.

dination.

Sudden severe headache with no known cause.

If your dad notices any of these signs, tell him to call 9-1-1 mmediately. And instruct other family members what to do incase of a cardiac emergency. There are many treatments available, but all must be dono quickly after the onset of symptoms.

For more information about reducing your risk of heart disease, as well as the warning signs of hart attack or stroke, log on to americanheart.org or call (800) AHA-USA1.

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